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REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 12-15, 17, 20, 21, 24-30, 33, 35 and 36 have been amended in order to more clearly recite the subject matter of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit no new matter has been added. Claims 6, 7, 18, 19, 31 and 32 have been cancelled without prejudice. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 12, 14-19, 21, 24, 25 and 27-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,675,385 to Wang (Wang) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,668,591 to Shintani (Shintani) and U.S. Patent No. 6,816,201 to Fang et al. (Fang).

Claims 8, 10, 11, 20, 22, 23 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang, Shintani and Fang as applied to claims 9, 21 and 36 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0069416 to Stiles (Stiles).

Claims 2, 13 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang, Shintani and Fang as applied to claims 1, 12 and 24 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,606,746 to Zdepski et al. (Zdepski).

103 Rejection based on Wang, Shintani and Fang

Wang

Wang relates to electronic program guides for digital television systems where the program guides are transmitted in hypertext markup language (HTML) in an MPEG digital television system. The Wang program guides include a rotating data carousel of HTML pages formatted to be transported in the data packets of an MPEG-2 data stream.

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Shintani

Shintani relates to an information terminal apparatus for downloading the latest application software via a network of a cable television or uploading data from a user terminal. The Shintani terminal apparatus attempts to ensure enhanced operational facility and realizing easier maintenance of software required for a variety of services.

Fang

Fang relates to a television system and method for facilitating use of text or other information that may be included in an extended data service (XDS) system. The XDS system provides closed caption information as well as four additional fields of text or other data. The Fang system includes a text display which is coupled to a data port, a dedicated RS-232 connector or other serial port, for displaying text information included in the XDS signal where the text display may be mounted adjacent to the television display. Fang allows the XDS signal to be displayed separately from the video image of the television screen and thus avoids obscuring the television image.

The Office Action states that Wang discloses a number of features recited in claim 1, however Wang fails to disclose a memory within the viewing device and the viewing device connected to the IRD via a low speed serial data port to the IRD. The Office Action cites to Shintani for disclosing an information receiving system, where a cable box downloads information from a center and transfers the information to a remote unit. The Office Action further states that the information is transferred over an infrared port for storage on the remote unit. This Office Action also cites to Fang for disclosing a television receiver wherein a hardwired RS-232 serial data port is utilized to transmit additional information received with a video signal to a separate remote display. The Office Action states, in conclusion, that it would have been obvious to modify the Wang system to include a memory within the viewing device and to connect the viewing device via

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a low speed serial data port to the IRD, all as taught by Shintani. The Office Action also states that it would have been obvious to modify Wang and Shintani to include a hardwired RS-232 serial connector as taught by Fang.

To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all claims limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (C.C.P.A. 1974). Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 12, 14-19, 21, 24, 25 and 27-36 stand rejected as being obvious in view of Wang and Shintani. As set forth above, Applicants have cancelled claims 6, 7, 18, 19, 31 and 32 therefore the rejection as applied to these claims is now moot. Applicants have also amended independent claims 1, 12, 24 and 28 to recite further features as contemplated by the present invention. Applicants have also removed the previously recited feature, a hardwired RS-232 serial connector between the IRD and viewing device, from the independent claims 1, 12, 24 and 28. Accordingly, the Fang reference no longer applies to the claims of the present invention.

Amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28 now recite the further features related to the bundling of content specific information to discrete broadcast channels, where the content specific information and broadcast channel are coupled based upon the same or similar subject matter. Neither Wang nor Shintani teach or disclose such a feature, and Applicants clearly disclose this embodiment at page 9 of the specification. Wang discloses a HTML electronic program guide that is displayed on a television via a settop box that is displayed on a television. Shintani merely teaches an external information input port for receiving external software. The external software of Shintani is transmitted to a remote control and enables the selection of game, shopping or auction modes in relation to the television and settop box in use. Clearly, Wang or Shintani, in combination or separately, do not teach a transmission of coupled content specific information and discrete broadcast channels and the decoupling of the content specific information onto to an interactive viewing device via a settop box.

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Applicants, therefore respectfully submit that the combination of Wang and Shintani fails to render amend claims 1, 12, 24 and 28 obvious, due to the failure of Wang and Shintani to teach, suggest or disclose each feature of the amended claims. Furthermore, Wang and Shintani also fail to render claims 3-5, 9, 14-17, 21, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 33-36 obvious since claims 3-5, 9, 14-17, 21, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 33-36 depend, respectively, from the allowable subject matter of amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28. Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

103 Rejection based on Wang, Shintani, Fang and Stiles

Claims 8, 10, 11, 20, 22, 23 and 37 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wang, Shintani and Fang as applied to claims 9, 21 and 36 above, and further in view of Stiles. Stiles relates to a method and apparatus that provides multipoint to multipoint hierarchical redistribution of multimedia content. The Office Action cites to Stiles for the disclosure of a second network computer for processing, formatting and storing information to enable EPG in a television system. As stated above, the combination Wang and Shintani fails to render amended independent claims 1, 12, 24 and 28 obvious, due to the failure of Wang and Shintani to teach, suggest or disclose each feature of the amended claims. Stiles fails to cure the deficiencies associated with Wang and Shintani as applied to claims 9, 21 and 36. Claims 8, 10, 11, 20, 22, 23 and 37 depend, respectively, from the allowable subject matter of amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28, and therefore stand allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above in regard amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28. Accordingly, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

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103 Rejection based on Wang, Shintani, Fang and Zdepski

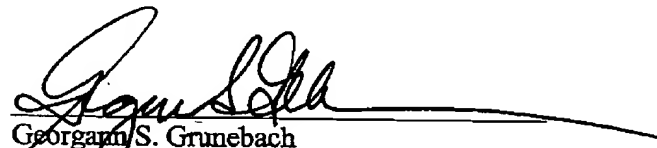
Claims 2, 13 and 26 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Wang and Shintani as applied to claims 1, 12 and 24 above, and further in view of Zdepski. Zdepski relates to a method and apparatus that provides a graphical user interface (GUI) in an interactive television system. The Office Action cites to Stiles for the disclosure of a viewing device, such as a home computer, to display received television programming. As stated above, the combination Wang and Shintani fails to render amended independent claims 1, 12, 24 and 28 obvious, due to the failure of Wang and Shintani to teach, suggest or disclose each feature of the amended claims. Zdepski fails to cure the deficiencies associated with Wang and Shintani as applied to claims 1, 12 and 24. Claims 2, 13 and 26 depend, respectively, from the allowable subject matter of amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28, and therefore stand allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above in regard amended claims 1, 12, 24 and 28. Accordingly, based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

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CONCLUSION

Based upon the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of all pending claims is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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